

field in the data packet based on the selected mode is performed on the computer by the input device driver by:

receiving an input device data packet comprising an orientation field including orientation information indicative of the physical orientation of the computer input device, a multiple-switch field including switch information indicative of the configuration of the multiple-switch device and a mode field including mode information indicative of the selected mode; and maintaining the orientation information in the orientation field and the switch information in the multiple-switch field when the selected mode is a first selected mode.

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16. (Amended) A data structure generated by a computer input device for transmission to a computer, comprising:

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an orientation field containing orientation data indicative of a pitch and roll physical orientation of the computer input device; and

a switch field containing switch information indicative of a multiple-switch device located on the computer input device and having at least two degrees of motional freedom.

21. (Amended) The computer input device of claim 20 and further comprising:

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a multiple-switch device having at least two degrees of motional freedom and,] actuatable by an operator, the controller being configured to receive switch information indicative of a configuration of the multiple-switch device and to place switch data in a multiple-switch field in the data packet based on the switch information.

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